



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

OFFICE OF
WATER AND
WATERSHEDS

September 15, 2014

Reply To
Attn Of: OWW-130

CERTIFIED MAIL- RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Wade Hargis
P.O. Box 2756
Bigfork, MT 59911

Re: NPDES Permit No.: IDG-37-0127
Small Suction Dredge Mining

Dear Wade Hargis:

This letter is to inform you that you are authorized to operate a small suction dredge in Lolo Creek, at approximately 46.4199 N. Latitude, -115.649 W. Longitude, near Weippe, Idaho under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Small Suction Dredge Placer Miners in Idaho (General Permit). Please note that you are authorized to operate a suction dredge only in the receiving water(s) listed in this letter. If you plan to dredge in a different location, please submit a new Notice of Intent at least 60 days in advance of any planned dredging, and wait for written authorization from EPA before discharging at the new location.

You must keep a copy of this letter and the enclosed General Permit at the dredge site at all times. Enclosed are two copies of your "Miner Number" (0199) which must be displayed on your dredge and in a vehicle near your dredge site. Authorization under this General Permit does not relieve you from the requirement to obtain a permit from the Idaho Department of Water Resources and/or from complying with any additional closures and timing restrictions.

Please note, you must comply with all of the requirements in the General Permit, including the monitoring and reporting requirements found in Part II.C. An Annual Report is due to the EPA at the following address by January 31 of each year for the previous year's activities:

US EPA Region 10
Attn: NPDES Compliance Unit, OCE-133
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, WA 98101-314

The Annual Report must include all of the information found in Appendix B of the General Permit, or a report of "No Mining." A courtesy copy of the Annual Report form is enclosed and can also be found on our website at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/water.nsf/npdes+permits/idsuction-gp>. Remember to provide a copy of your Annual Report to the appropriate Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Regional Office as well (Part III.B.).

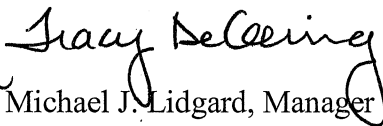
Please also note that an Endangered Species Act (Act) opinion has been issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service, pursuant to section 7 of the Act, on effects of the Lolo Creek Suction Dredging Program proposed by the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest [*Suction Dredging on USFS Lands in the Lolo Creek Drainage—Idaho and Clearwater Counties, Idaho—Concurrence; In Reply Refer to: 01EIFW00-2013-I-0210 and Endangered Species Act Section 7 Formal Consultation and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Consultation for the Lolo Creek Suction Dredging Program, HUCs 1706030616 and 1706030618, Idaho County, Idaho*]. You must work with U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to ensure that your

operation is in compliance with the measures detailed in the relevant USFS consultation documents for this General Permit to remain valid.

This General Permit expires on April 30, 2018. If, during this time, you no longer need coverage under the General Permit, or you have a new mailing address, please inform the EPA so that we can properly document your inactivity and provide any reminders for reporting and/or renewing the General Permit.

Your activities may be subject to other local, state, and federal permits and certifications. This letter does not relieve you of your obligation to obtain all other appropriate permits and permission. **Please contact Mr. Clint Hughes at (208) 983-5146, regarding the U.S. Forest Service's requirements for submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) and/or Plan of Operations, before you begin dredging.** If you have technical questions regarding this permit please contact Tracy DeGering in our Idaho Operations Office in Boise at degering.tracy@epa.gov or (208) 378-5756.

Sincerely,


for Michael J. Lidgard, Manager
NPDES Permits Unit

Enclosures

cc: John Cardwell (John.Cardwell@deq.idaho.gov) – Idaho Dept of Environmental Quality,
Lewiston Regional Office
Clint Hughes (cehughes02@fs.fed.us) – U.S. Forest Service, Nez Perce-Clearwater National
Forests



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CERTIFIED MAIL- RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

James Dill
P.O. Box 329
Pierce, ID 83546

Re: NPDES Permit No.: IDG-37-0126
Small Suction Dredge Mining

Dear James Dill:

This letter is to inform you that you are authorized to operate a small suction dredge in Orogrande Creek, at approximately 46.579029 N. Latitude, -115.619793 W. Longitude, near Pierce, Idaho under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Small Suction Dredge Placer Miners in Idaho (General Permit). Please note that you are authorized to operate a suction dredge only in the receiving water(s) listed in this letter. If you plan to dredge in a different location, please submit a new Notice of Intent at least 60 days in advance of any planned dredging, and wait for written authorization from EPA before discharging at the new location.

You must keep a copy of this letter and the enclosed General Permit at the dredge site at all times. Enclosed are two copies of your "Miner Number" (0200) which must be displayed on your dredge and in a vehicle near your dredge site. Authorization under this General Permit does not relieve you from the requirement to obtain a permit from the Idaho Department of Water Resources and/or from complying with any additional closures and timing restrictions.

Please note, you must comply with all of the requirements in the General Permit, including the monitoring and reporting requirements found in Part II.C. An Annual Report is due to the EPA at the following address by January 31 of each year for the previous year's activities:

US EPA Region 10
Attn: NPDES Compliance Unit, OCE-133
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The Annual Report must include all of the information found in Appendix B of the General Permit, or a report of "No Mining." A courtesy copy of the Annual Report form is enclosed and can also be found on our website at <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/water.nsf/npdes+permits/idsuction-gp>. Remember to provide a copy of your Annual Report to the appropriate Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Regional Office as well (Part III.B.).

Please also note that an Endangered Species Act (Act) opinion has been issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, pursuant to section 7 of the Act, on effects of the Orogrande Creek Drainage Suction Dredging Project proposed by the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest [Section 7 Consultation for the Orogrande Creek Drainage Suction Dredging—Concurrence (Refer to: FWS Ref: 01EIFW00-2014-I-0648; CONS-100(a))]. You must work with U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to ensure that your operation is in compliance with the measures detailed in the relevant USFS consultation documents for this General Permit to remain valid.

This General Permit expires on April 30, 2018. If, during this time, you no longer need coverage under the General Permit, or you have a new mailing address, please inform the EPA so that we can properly document your inactivity and provide any reminders for reporting and/or renewing the General Permit.

Your activities may be subject to other local, state, and federal permits and certifications. This letter does not relieve you of your obligation to obtain all other appropriate permits and permission. **Please contact Mr. Clint Hughes at (208) 983-5146, regarding the U.S. Forest Service's requirements for submitting a Notice of Intent (NOI) and/or Plan of Operations, before you begin dredging.** If you have technical questions regarding this permit please contact Tracy DeGering in our Idaho Operations Office in Boise at degering.tracy@epa.gov or (208) 378-5756.

Sincerely,

for Tracy DeGering
Michael J. Lidgard, Manager
NPDES Permits Unit

Enclosures

cc: John Cardwell (John.Cardwell@deq.idaho.gov) – Idaho Dept of Environmental Quality,
Lewiston Regional Office
Clint Hughes (cehughes02@fs.fed.us) – U.S. Forest Service, Nez Perce-Clearwater National
Forests